



OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Jeremy V. Criss
Director

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 2017

TO: Agricultural Advisory Committee Members (AAC)

FROM: Jeremy V. Criss, Director
Office of Agriculture

SUBJECT: November 21, 2017 Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee

The Agricultural Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday November 21, 2017 at the **Germantown Library Room A 19840 Century Blvd. Germantown MD. 20874 at 7:00 pm.**

The agenda is on the next page.

The draft minutes from the September 19, 2017 AAC meeting are attached.

The other attachments for our meeting will be posted on the Office of Agriculture web site.
<http://montgomerycountymd.gov/AgServices/agboardscommittee.html>

I hope to see you on Tuesday.

*Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If you need other services or Aids to participate in this activity, please call 301-590-2810

e:aacNovember(aac17)



**Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
November 21, 2017**

1. Meeting Called to Order and Introductions:
2. Approval of the September 19, 2017 AAC meeting minutes. There was no meeting in October.
3. The OAG is continuing to work with Office of Human Resources to complete the reclassifications of all OAG staff- The following reclassifications are complete-John Zawitoski, District Manager MIII, Karen Walker-OSC, Melissa Steed-PAA, Cathy Yingling-AA-II, Jackie Arnold, A-II. The following reclassifications are still pending-Vacant Farmland Preservation Program Manager, James Harne and Shelly Ingram Resource Conservationist I, II, III, and Jeremy Criss, Director MII.
4. The ZTA 17-06 Agricultural Zone-TDR Requirements is scheduled for the Planning Housing and Economic Development-PHED Committee on November 27, 2017 at 2:00 pm. There are three proposed amendments as recommended by the AAC, MAP and APAB. The MNCPPC will not support the removal of language that allows [up to three] mobile homes used as farm tenant dwellings.
5. Follow up to our discussion with Bob Harris and Nichols Freeman on the Bed and Breakfast uses. The County Council developed a ZTA 17-08 that addresses the recommendations of the AAC as outlined in our email to the PHED Committee dated September 19, 2017.
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/Resources/Files/zta/2017/ZTA%2017-08.pdf>
6. County Council Bill 23-17 Animal Control-Performance Animal-Violations. The MCFB, AAC, MAP and the Agricultural Center submitted a third letter dated November 2, 2017 which requested additional time and assign the Bill to a working group. The Public Safety Committee scheduled a second Work Session on November 9, 2017.
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/Viewer.php?view_id=169&clip_id=14035&meta_id=145753 Following the Work Session, the OAG and the Agricultural Center provided a minor amendment (**see attached**) and requested a follow up meeting with the County Council. Stay Tuned.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

Except for any animal act performed for a school as part of the school curriculum, a person or business must not financially benefit from the exhibition of a wild animal in a traveling animal act.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Except for any animal act performed for educational purposes at a Fair or a school, as part of the school curriculum, a person must not financially benefit from the exhibition of a wild animal in a traveling animal act.

7. County DOT removed the guard rail on Zion Road after Randy Stabler complained how it would create greater safety and liability issues for the County Government. The OAG has received several guard rail projects from the County DOT and the OAG has provided input

on impact to the agricultural community. The County DOT is working with the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee-RRAC on the Zion Road Bridge replacement. **(Please see the letter from the RRAC attached)** The Agricultural Advisory Committee will discuss this Zion Road Bridge replacement including the recommended width of the new bridge on November 21, 2017.

8. University of Maryland College of AGNR Strategic Initiatives Update from Dean Beyrouty. [college's strategic visioning website](#)
9. State Highway Administration announcement on MD Route 28 Monocacy River Bridge construction. The SHA will be holding a community meeting on November 21, 2017 at 2:00 PM at the SHA D7 Office Training Room 1 located at 5111 Buckeystown Pike Frederick, 21704 (Please see the attached SHA flyer)
10. The MNCPPC has created a Agritourism Study Advisory Committee. **(Please see the attached list of members)** The study will evaluate the current zoning and building codes of the County to see if changes are needed.
11. The Office of Agriculture sponsored a tour of three agritourism farms in Loudoun County VA on Thursday November 16, 2017. **(Please see the attached program and insert of background information)**
12. The Office of Agriculture has partnered with the Maryland Agricultural Resource Based Industry Development Corporation MARBIDCO to create a matching grant program for farmers installing deer fencing.
13. Follow up from the meeting on Tuesday November 14, 2017 with the County Executive, OMB and OAG to discuss the Agricultural Land Preservation Capital Improvement Program and a sustainable long-term source of funding. MDE Regulations for Nutrient Leasing will be effective in January 2018.
14. The next meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee is December 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm. We will be meeting at the Germantown Library 19840 Century Blvd. Room B Germantown, MD. 20874.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee-November 21, 2017
PHED Committee Work Session-ZTA 17-06-November 27, 2017@2:00pm
Montgomery Soil Conservation Bd of Supervisors-December 8, 2017 @ 9:00am
Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Supervisors-December 12, 2017@7:00pm
Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board-December 12, 2017 @ 7:00pm